Nor Flood Nor Fire Will Stop Us Till We've Won

Nippon Times

Smite Until Our Foes Bend On Their Knees

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HONORS GIVEN 312 CIVILIANS BY NAVY OFFICE

For Contributing to Naval Operations in China Affair, Says Communique

IS 23RD CONFERMENT

Red Cross Relief Squad Members, War Correspondents And Others Included

For distinguished contributions to naval operations in the China Affair, awards have been granted to civilians in the employ of the Navy, Red Cross Society Relief Squad members, war correspondents and others numbering 312 in all, in the 23rd conferment of awards in connection with the China Affair, it was announced by the Navy Ministry and the Bureau of Decorations under date of February 20.

The people thus honored are 132 civilians in the Navy's service, including Shigezo Yamashita who cooperated with the Navy in South China; seven Red Cross Society Relief Squad members, who were engaged in relief work among Naval Landing Party members in Central China, 116 civilians, including Jiro Iwata who cooperated directly in operations in the same area and 57 war correspondents, including Shinryo Tachibana, who devoted themselves to reportorial duties in various districts on the China front.

The Navy Ministry's announcement follows:

"An Imperial Order has been issued for the conferment of awards on civilians in the employ of the Navy and others for services in the China Affair.

Recipients of Awards

"The recipients of the awards are 132 in the employ of the Navy, including Shigezo Yamashita, who cooperated with the Navy in the South China area, five Red Cross Relief Squad members, who were engaged in relief work among Naval Landing Party members in the Central China area, 116 parties, including Jiro Iwata, who cooperated directly in operations in the same area and 57 parties, including Shinryo Tachibana, who as naval war correspondents devoted themselves to reportorial duties in various districts on the China front.

Shigezo Yamashita who has been granted the Third Class Order of the Sacred Treasure and the other civilians in the Navy's employ rendered distinguished contributions to naval operations and construction work in the South China area. Many of them, including Mr. Yamashita, were officials of the Government-General of Taiwan.

The five members of the Red Cross Relief Squad, after being attached to the Special Naval Landing Party on September 9, 1937 in the early stage of the China Affair, devoted themselves to relief work at the stake of their lives amid gunfire.

Jiro Iwata who has been awarded the Seventh Class Order of the Sacred Treasure and 115 others participated in the fighting at Shanghai in August, 1937 as chauffeurs of the Traffic Unit of the Special Naval Landing Party at Shanghai and discharged satisfactorily the duty of transporting troops, ammunition, supplies, etc. under rains of enemy gunfire, thereby enabling the replenishment of fighting strength and operations and rendering substantial direct contributions to operations.

As War Correspondents

Shinryo Tachibana who has been awarded the Sixth Class Order of the Sacred Treasure and 56 others followed the Navy as front line correspondents. Defying danger and in obedience to instructions of the Navy, they devoted themselves to reportorial duties at the stake of their lives, thereby supplying regular war news and enhancing war-consciousness and the sense of service to the State on the part of the people on the home front.

Mr. Tachibana was the chief of the Shanghai branch of the Osaka Mainichi Shimbun. Among other newspaper men honored on the present occasion are Usuke Oshima of the Osaka Asahi who has been decorated with the Eighth Class Order of the Sacred Treasure; Torao Saito of the Tokyo Asahi who has been awarded the Seventh Class Order of the Sacred Treasure; Tetsuichiro Hikita, chief of the Mukden branch of the Osaka Mainichi who is a recipient of the Sixth Class Order of the Sacred Treasure; Takao Nishiyama of the Tokyo Nichi Nichi

(Continued on Page 2 Col. 8)

Scanty Foe Supplies to Turkey Said Cause for Failure of Talks

Difficulties Attending Ankara's Fitting in With Enemy Strategic Scheme Also Responsible for Breakdown Of Military Negotiations With Britain

By Our Diplomatic Commentator

The negotiations conducted in studied secrecy between the Turkish General Staff and the British Military Mission for well on one month following the second Cairo conference have broken down.

The chief causes of the rupture are surmised in some quarters to have been the inadequacy of the amount of Anglo-American supplies of war materials to the Turkish Army and the difficulties attending the orientation of Turkey in the general anti-Axis strategic scheme. On this point various sources of information seem to agree.

Despite the fact that the amount of war materials demanded by Turkey was far smaller than that promised by Prime Minister Churchill during the Adana conference early last year, the actual amount that had been allocated to Turkey by Britain was below the amount deemed by Turkey to be absolutely necessary, while despite it being only reasonable that the indispensable and necessary amount demanded by Turkey should be determined by Turkey herself, the British were said to have arbitrarily imposed upon Turkey whatever amount they judged suitable.

In regard to the strategic orientation of Turkey, it is said that there is a wide difference of opinion between the British and Turkish military authorities on the fighting strength of the Germans. It is the opinion of the Turkish authorities that so long as Germany maintains an adequate armament as the stabilizing force in the Balkans and is in control of the Aegean Sea, Turkey's entry into war on the side of the anti-Axis camp would prove disastrous to her national interests. Nor is the fact that Britain has failed to notify the general war policy of the anti-Axis camp to Turkey conducive to the reassurance of Turkey.

Motive of Negotiations

The British negotiations with Turkey, of course, were motivated by a desire to secure a strong foothold in that country for the impending offensive on Germany planned at the Teheran conference, with the same underlying idea as is prompting their persecution of Spain. Economically they intend to complete the blockade against Germany; politically they wish to isolate Germany by coercing the neutrals to sever relations with her, and strategically they desire to use the territories of the neutrals and to drag the latter into war.

On the part of Turkey, although she is linked to Britain by a mutual aid treaty concluded with her in October, 1939, for her just now to participate in the war on the side of the anti-Axis would bring her no advantage, as the present states of the various exiled regimes in Lon-

(Continued on Page 2 Col. 3)

REICH SMASHING FOE IN S. ITALIAN FRONT

Furious Fight Rages at Anzio, Nettuno With Beachhead Further Dented by Germans

Special

BERLIN, February 18.—In incessant hard fighting on Thursday, the 26th day after the landing of the American Sixth Army, the anti-Axis beachhead at Anzio and Nettuno was further hemmed in by the German forces, reports Guenther Weber, German war correspondent on the Italian front.

The correspondent said that the Via Anziate is still the focal point of fighting south of Aprilia and that the Germans there are able to advance their main battle line still farther.

"The American and British soldiers there are offering stiff resistance from a deeply echeloned defense system adjacent to the territory held by German grenadiers and parachute troops," he declared. "As on the previous day, the big guns of both sides expended an extraordinary amount of ammunition. German railway guns and anti-Axis warship cannon thundered away at each other.

"With concentrated fire, the German artillery effectively fought fortified enemy field positions, troop and vehicle concentrations and shipping targets at disembarkation points, as well as enemy naval units cruising off shore.

Artillery Duel Staged

"Their fire was answered from the sea so that a regular duel developed between the long range artillery of both sides. The air activity of the anti-Axis air forces on Thursday was especially strong over areas close to the front lines. For the first time in this sector of the front, about 500 planes, including four-engined bombers, attacked the German positions and supply lines. Their bomb carpet tactics, however, scored only scant success.

He stated that from an observation post he witnessed the shooting down of numerous anti-Axis planes, including several four-engined bombers. "From one U.S. Flying Fortress, five airmen bailed out," he said. "Two parachutes did not open, while three American airmen landed safely on a German battery emplacement. Twenty-two year-old-American airman, Carastro Lawrence from Tampa, Florida, still had horror written all over his face. I heard him say 'it was horrible' over and over again."

"Back of the German lines, a continuous stream of prisoners were arriving at concentration points," the correspondent asserted. "The most moving for me was the scene I saw on Thursday morning on the

(Continued on Page 2 Col. 1)

MIGHTY REICH GUNS BLAST FOE IN ITALY

Successes on Eastern Front Attributed to Destructive Fire From German Batteries

Special

BERLIN, February 18.—Artillery is again playing the most important role in the present fighting on the Eastern Front and also at the focal points on the Italian front. The German press has recently been stressing that the successes on the Eastern Front were largely due to the effective fire of the German artillery and thrower formations.

The German war correspondent on the Narva front again emphasized on Thursday night that the success of the counter-attack launched by S.S. formations on that front were mostly due to the effective artillery support. German reports from the Italian front also laid stress on the fact that the situation at the Nettuno beachhead completely turned to the Germans' favor when German long-range batteries went into action.

They pointed out that the concentrated fire of the German artillery was inflicting heavy losses on the enemy formations which were crowded together in a narrow, flat strip of land along the coast. German war correspondents on the Italian front also stressed that the German defense system on the Italian coasts could not be compared with the powerful permanent fortifications on the French coast. After this the Anglo-American troops in the Nettuno beachhead presumably realize that an invasion of the continent will be far from easy.

On the Eastern Front heavy fighting continues in the Narva sector. Norwegian, Danish, and Dutch volunteers fighting in the ranks of German S.S. formations greatly distinguished themselves in the fighting in this sector, where the Soviet attacks are being firmly met. Heavy fighting is also in progress in Vitebsk and in the region of Cherkassy, where the German troops launched a successful counter-attack. The situation along almost the whole of the Eastern Front is now marked by moderate frosts. In the Leningrad area, a temperature of 15 degrees centigrade below zero was registered, while from the big loop of the Dnieper, a temperature of about five degrees was reported. On the Italian front, the German attack on the Nettuno beachhead continues to take a favorable course. Heavy fighting continues in the northern outskirts of Cassino.

Enemy Situation Critical

Special

LISBON, February 18.—Commenting on the situation in the Nettuno beachhead in an editorial on Thursday, the semi-official organ

(Continued on Page 2 Col. 7)

HEAVY LOSSES ARE DEALT FOE IN RABAUL AREA

26 Enemy Planes Downed and 7 Others Damaged on Feb. 15, 16 and 17

RAID ON TAROA BEATEN OFF

Anti-Axis Headquarters Admits Damage to Shipping by Our Units Off Bougainville

Special to the Nippon Times

UNDISCLOSED BASE IN THE SOUTH PACIFIC, February 19.—Delivering heavy blows to the anti-Axis counter-offensive in the South Pacific area, Japanese Naval Air Units and the Army and Navy Garrison Forces at Rabaul on New Britain Island have ceaselessly been active, obtaining brilliant war results daily.

Intercepting the enemy attacking planes, the Japanese Sea Eagles in concerted action with the ground units shot down 26 raiders and damaged seven others on February 15, 16 and 17 out of a total of 244 attempting to raid Rabaul.

On the morning of February 15, 22 North American B-25 bombers and 30 fighters came attacking. The Japanese immediately counter-attacked them, shooting down nine planes, including two B-25's, and seven P-38's and F4U's, and damaging six B-25's. Two of the Japanese planes failed to return from this battle but no damage was suffered by our ground forces.

A total of 49 enemy planes, consisting of fighters and 19 B-24's, attempted another raid on the morning of February 16. The Naval Wild Eagles promptly gave furious battle, damaging a B-24 bomber. Without responding, all the other enemy raiders fled in disorder. The Japanese side suffered no damage.

On the morning of the following day, the enemy again attempted to raid Rabaul in a formation of 143 planes, consisting of 70 TBF's, 23 B-25's and 50 fighters. Catching up with them, the Japanese defenders brought down 17 invaders, including two TBF's and 15 F4F's, after a severe duel, from which two Japanese planes have not yet returned. The damage done to the Japanese side on the ground was negligible.

Enemy Raid Frustrated

Special to the Nippon Times

UNDISCLOSED BASE IN THE SOUTH PACIFIC, February 19.—In several waves, a formation of 15 enemy deck-bomber planes with sea-craft came attacking our position on Taroa Island in Maloelap lagoon in the Marshall Group on the afternoon of February 16, and bombarded and bombed our positions. Our Garrison Forces stationed there furiously counter-attacked them and repulsed all the raiders.

On Thursday morning in several raids, anti-Axis planes, numbering 16, again came over the same island and enemy warships also bombarded it. The Japanese Garrison Units repelled the invaders after engaging in a fierce attack.

In these two combats at Taroa, the damage on our side was negligible.

Out of 12 enemy small planes that attempted a raid on Mille Island on

(Continued on Page 2 Col. 5)

TRUK LANDING FLATLY DENIED BY FRANK KNOX

Enemy Keeps Silent on Details Of Fighting But Resorts to Blatant Propaganda

ROOSEVELT IS EVASIVE

Tells Newsmen Has No Report; New York Paper Sees Grim Battle Ahead

Domei

LISBON, February 18.—Secretary of the Navy Frank Knox in the course of a press conference today is understood to have denied that the Americans have landed on the Truk Islands, an important Japanese base in the South Seas Mandated Islands, according to a press dispatch received here from Washington.

The United States Government is studiedly refraining from publishing any particulars on the attack of an American task force on the Truks on the ground that they are military secrets but is circulating in abstract terms such blatant propaganda as "America's Greatest Naval Campaign in History Is Now On" in order to stiffen the morals of the public.

Knox Declines Details

A press report from Washington says that Knox in reply to newsmen's queries stated:

"I can't give you the particulars of the attack on the Truks because I believe Japanese submarines are still operating in those waters."

Asked whether it was true that American ground troops had landed on the Truks, as appears to have been reported from a Japanese source, Knox is understood to have made a flat denial.

The United States Office of War Information today is reported to have broadcast to the army and navy:

"Particulars of the operations in the Truk area are still unavailable because we have so far had no follow-up news. The American task forces is keeping its movements strictly secret."

At the time that the United States began her offensives on the Gilbert and Marshall Islands, the naval authorities declared that these campaigns were aimed at luring out the Japanese main fleet for a decisive battle. Both Knox and Admiral Chester W. Nimitz, commander-in-chief of the Pacific fleet, told newsmen that such was the scheme. Now with the Truk operations begun, the naval authorities are again airing their decisive battle plan. A Reuter dispatch from Pearl Harbor dated yesterday quotes as a view emanating from the Nimitz headquarters: "the attack on the Truks is of the utmost importance as part of the plan to bring the main strength of the Japanese fleet into a decisive engagement with the powerful American task force in the Central Pacific waters."

Tough Fighting Seen

In its editorial for today, the New York Herald Tribune surmised that the Japanese garrison force would defend the Truk Islands to the last.

"From every angle it is certain that the Japanese will defend the Truks to the last man. For they are one of the most important bases of the Japanese Navy in the Central Pacific waters and are also a defense base

(Continued on Page 2 Col. 2)

True Japan-German Camaraderie Revealed When Hitler Jugend Lads Visit Tsuchiura

A little scene of Japan-German camaraderie was enacted on Saturday when a party of 30 Hitler Jugend members in Tokyo and Yokohama paid a visit to the Tsuchiura Naval Air Unit.

The visit, arranged through the good offices of the Japan-German Culture Society, was the result of the Reich youths' longing to observe at first hand the discipline and training of young Naval airmen.

At 5:30 a.m., the young visitors marched to their destination, making nothing of the piercing cold. Led by First Class Sub-Lieutenant N, they entered the barracks, still quiet with the occupants asleep.

Six o'clock. Reveille was sounded quickly followed by the order to "Clear Hammocks!" The feverish activities that ensued amazed the visitors. The future Nippon heroes of the air jumped out, cleared their bedding, dressed, washed and showed up on the parade ground before five minutes had passed.

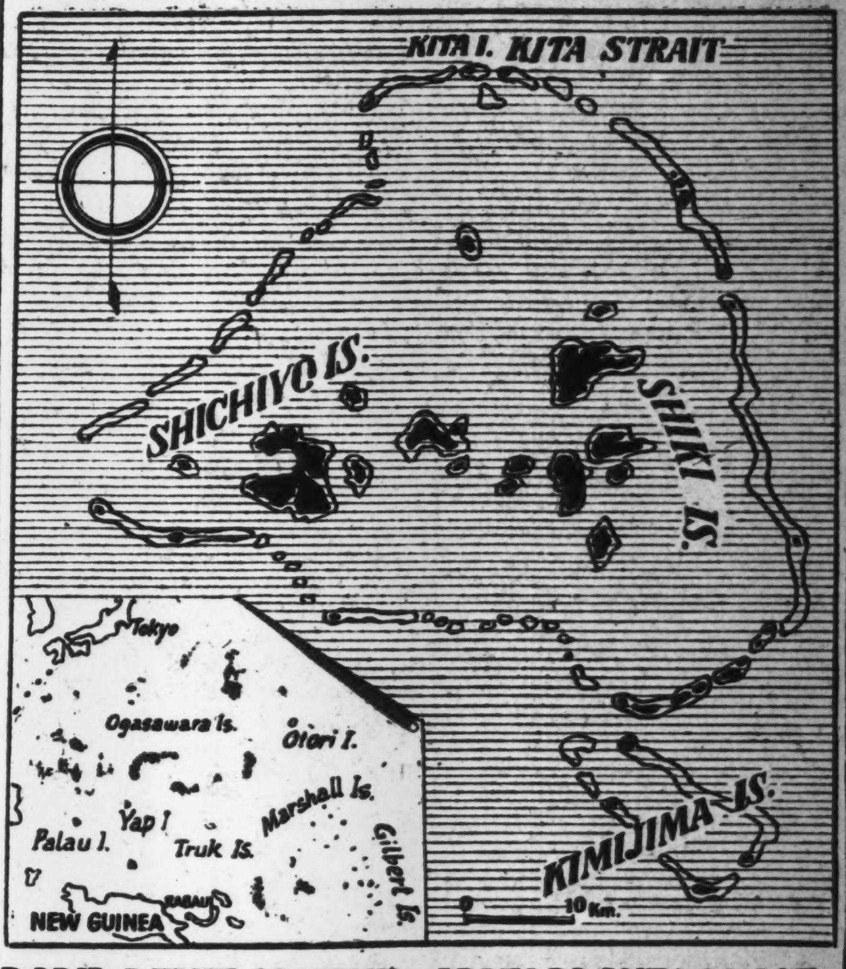
"Heil! Fleet Admiral Yamamoto!" the Reich youths raised their right hands in salute to the statue of the hero god of the Japanese Navy. They had attended the Fleet Admiral's funeral last summer on behalf of the Hitler Jugend in Japan. The emotion they felt on that day again gripped their young hearts.

The routine and drills of the young air men on the parade ground were solemnity itself characteristic of the traditional spirit of the Nippon Navy.

Back in the barracks, the sprightly youths from our allied country in Europe inspected facilities and the system of education. They were then regaled with stories of the activities of boy air men from the First Class Sub-Lieutenant. In fluent Japanese they chatted with our future wild eagles.

In the afternoon, the Hitler Jugend youth entertained the leaders of the Naval Air Unit with the German handball game.

Truk Islands



RAPID DEVELOPMENT WITNESSED IN TIMOR

Despite Constant Bombing Islanders Calmly Engage in Increasing Food Output

Domei

SINGARADJA, February 18.—With the reclamation of wasteland for the increased production of foodstuffs, the maintenance of a tight defense by the Japanese Forces and the all-out cooperation of the native inhabitants, a rosy future is predicted for the development of Timor Island.

It is exactly two years ago on February 20 that the Japanese parachute troops descended on Koepang, Timor Island and hoisted the Rising Sun Flag. Recalling the enormous development of the island during the last two years, the Civil Administrator who recently returned here, made the following remarks:

"Timor Island is situated very near Australia which is the enemy's vital counter-offensive base. Despite the enemy's sporadic raids on the island a steady progress has been witnessed in every sphere of life. Enemy planes appear over the island and drop bombs wantonly, but inevitably take flight as soon as they are intercepted by Japanese airmen. Not in the least disturbed or confused by the frequent appearance of enemy planes, the islanders calmly go into air-raid shelters when they appear. The fact that only one resident was hit by a bomb splinter since last December, attests to the failure of such enemy attempts.

"Not only are the Japanese Forces maintaining an iron defense of this island, but they are also eagerly endeavouring to increase foodstuff production. With the aim of cultivating rice, corn, tapioca, sweet potatoes and Irish potatoes in large quantities, the reclamation of wasteland has been begun. In line with the increased production policy, even hilly areas are to be cultivated in the near future.

"At Koepang a training camp which is similar to the Uchihara Training Camp in Japan, was set up last year where at present 100 native youths are being trained in agricultural technique under the tutelage of Japanese experts.

"Evincing most sincere faith in the Japanese, the Timor islanders, on the whole, are ready to extend their whole-hearted cooperation. Prior to the occupation of the island by the Japanese Forces, these islanders were accustomed to a lazy mode of living, and were extremely prejudiced against baths. Compared to the sturdy and healthy Indonesians, they were far inferior to the former both physically and intellectually.

"Treated most kindly and considerately by the Japanese, the islanders, for the first time, awakened from their long slumber and were restored to their true Asiatic consciousness. Now with their physical health greatly improved, they look happy and cheerful as they cooperate with the Japanese, performing errands on horseback in mountainous regions, serving as look-outs, etc. Wherever it may be—in the mountains, on the coast, or on farms—the Timor inhabitants may be seen ardently working side by side with the Japanese ever manifesting their deep faith in the latter."

ARMY PLANES BLAST KIENOW ONCE MORE

Mopping-Up Results by Japanese in Shantung Districts Are Made Public

18

Units of the Japanese Army Air Force in China on February 18 surprise-raided Kienow in Fukien Province and blasted the runaways and other military establishments, which have been rendered unusable, according to a dispatch dated February 19 to the Mainichi from a certain base.

It will be recalled that the runaways at this airfield were smashed by Japanese bombing raids on January 5 and 6. The enemy has recently repaired them, only to have them again demolished by our Army Wild Eagles.

Shantung Enemy Smashed

Domei

TSINGTAO, February 19.—The combined results of the Japanese Punitive Forces in their mopping-up operations in Shaoyuan, Yihsien and Pingtu areas, all in Shantung Province, between January 26 and February 6 were announced as follows:

Enemy bodies picked up by our forces numbered 268; war trophies; 30 rifles, 44 hand grenades, 60 mine fuses, 80 kilograms of gunpowder and large numbers of other arms.

ARGENTINE HEAD MIGHT QUIT SOON

May Give Post to Nicolas Repetto

Special

LISBON, February 18.—A Montevideo dispatch quoting reports from Buenos Aires said that President Pedro Ramirez might resign soon and turn the government over to Nicolas Repetto, chief justice of the supreme court. Some reports mentioned Sunday as the day Ramirez might resign.

All reports agreed that momentous events were in the offing in Argentina. The reports said that prominent navy men told Ramirez that in view of the internal struggle in the army it was time that he resigned. One report said that Ramirez agreed provided that there would be no recrimination.

U.S. SIGNS TRADE PACT

18

Domei

LISBON, February 18.—A trade agreement was concluded between the United States and the Dominican Republic with the latter agreeing to export to the United States all her surplus production of several kinds of essential foodstuffs, both Governments announced yesterday, according to a Washington dispatch.

The agreement will be effective until the end of June, 1945.

Fujisawa Given New Post

Kikuro Fujisawa, Chief Civil Administrator in the service of the Japanese Army in Malai, was appointed investigation official of the Home Ministry, it was announced on Saturday.

BRITISH FORCES IN ARAKAN ZONE ARE ENTRAPPED

7th Division of 14th Army Encircled by Japanese and Faces Annihilation

SCHEME ON BURMA FOILED

Nippon Units in High Spirits Ready to Take on American Reinforcements

By TATSUMI SUZUKI
Of the Army Press Corps

UNDISCLOSED BASE ON THE BURMA FRONT, February 17.—Troops of the seventh division of the British 14th army in the Arakan sector on the Burma-India border area have been routed without any difficulty by the vigorous surprise-raiding assault and subtle encirclement annihilative operation of the Japanese Forces. Now, the enemy's scheme for recapturing Burma from the southern portion of the Burma-India border area has been frustrated.

In striving to retrieve this "Arakan debacle" at a stretch, the anti-Axis forces are now busily making frantic efforts in increasing their strength, watching for a chance to invade the Fukawng sector.

On the foremost line in the Fukawng area at present are the troops of the twenty-second and thirty-eighth divisions of the Chungking army.

Within the past day or two, a reinforcement of the American troops, which had arrived at the first line, completed their quartering at the rear of the Chungking forces.

Baffling the enemy action of the twenty-second and thirty-eighth divisions at the outset in the jungle warfare on the banks of the Tharal and Dalun Rivers, the Imperial Japanese Forces having replenished their armaments are now in high spirits and ready to face the newly-arrived enemy troops.

Disregarding their own plight, the enemy is still recklessly planning to materialize their project, "the road to Tokyo," which will be shattered as a piece of dream by the Japanese Forces in the forthcoming fight.

Nippon Forces Superior

Domei

LISBON, February 18.—Apparently the onslaught of the Japanese Forces on the Burma-India border is progressing satisfactorily as, according to a New Delhi report received here, the anti-Axis headquarters for Southeastern Asia admitted the superiority of the Japanese Forces in its communique issued yesterday.

The dispatch states that the anti-Axis headquarters at the same time announced that the Japanese Forces had occupied several elevated positions in and around Maulben in the Tiddim area.

The Japanese Forces launched repeated attacks against several anti-Axis positions east of Ngakyedauk Pass, the communique added.

Further, the anti-Axis attempted to attack the Japanese from the northern section in the Mayu mountain range but the attack was frustrated by the terrific gunfire opened up by the Japanese Forces, the anti-Axis headquarters in Southeastern Asia announced in its war communique issued today, according to a New Delhi dispatch received here.

In the same communique the anti-Axis headquarters also announced that a fierce battle was raging at Ngakyedauk.

Stilwell Gives Excuse

Domei

CANTON, February 19.—Various reasons for the successive defeats suffered by the anti-Axis troops operating against the Japanese Forces in Burma were advanced by Lieutenant-General Joseph Stilwell, commander-in-chief of the U.S. Forces in India and China who is directing the Chungking units in the Fukawng Ravine on the northern section of the Burma-India border, according to a statement given by the spokesman of the Chungking Military Committee to newspapermen yesterday.

He declared that Stilwell's report spoke of the great difficulties attending the Chungking troops who were obliged to fight in dense malaria-infested jungles.

The spokesman's statement, in part, follows:

"The drive of the Chungking forces toward northwest Burma

(Continued on Page 2 Col. 4)

DIFFICULTIES TOLD IN ATTACKING JAPAN

Yanks Skeptical Over Strategy Disclosed by MacArthur to Depend on Chiang's Aid

Special

STOCKHOLM, February 18.—The statement by General Douglas MacArthur, Commander-in-Chief of the Anti-Axis Forces in the Southwestern Pacific, emphasizing that the only way to beat Japan is by beating the Japanese Army, and that the shortest way to get his done is through China with the aid of the navy and the help of the Chungking army, has brought expressions of skepticism in American circles, particularly regarding the dependence on Chungking, according to dispatches received here.

Glen Perry, Washington correspondent of the New York Sun, reported to the paper yesterday that in the war against Japan, military science dictates that China's manpower and geographic position should be the chief factors. However, he writes, "unhappily the implementation of this philosophy is difficult because of the scarcity of communication lines to China. But it exists, nonetheless, and will be followed."

Perry said that Washington knows very well that to attack Japan there must be a three-way effort with naval, air and land forces combining to do the job, and that no two of the three can succeed without the third. "Washington also knows that the task becomes increasingly difficult as the United States extends its lines of supply and shortens the lines for Japan," he stated.

Meanwhile, expressing skepticism over Chungking's military effectiveness, David Lawrence, editor of the news weekly, United States News, declared that Chungking must do for the United States in Asia what Soviet Russia has done for it in Europe—she must bear the brunt of the manpower burden.

Lawrence added: "We may be disappointed in the capacity of war-tired Chungking to develop military effectiveness. In that case, our final dependence may be on an air and sea blockade."

"The problem of getting China's manpower employed effectively in 1944 and 1945 depends upon the flow of supplies and if the United States cannot get the equipment into China before the summer of 1945, it can hardly expect major operations in the attempt to drive the Japanese back to the sea coast until 1946," he pointed out. "We should not underestimate what is ahead of us; that we have a big war on our hands in the Pacific."

Reich Smashing Foe In S. Italian Front

(Continued from Page 1)

Via Anziate north of Aprilia," he said describing the picture. "A column of over a hundred prisoners, tired, pale, and fagged out were trudging along. They came from the front lines. On a wide plank they were carrying a dead comrade, a British soldier, Harry Hall, from Bradford, who had been killed by an American shell enroute to the concentration point.

"From conversations with American and British prisoners, I learned what confirmed my earlier impressions; namely, that the anti-Axis forces, during the 36 hours which elapsed since the start of the German attack on Aprilia, have suffered terribly severe losses in dead and wounded.

"An American prisoner, James L. Miller, 29, of New York, who had seen front line fighting in Tunisia and Sicily told me, 'Aprilia' was the toughest fight I ever went through'."

Escape Encirclement

Special

BERLIN, February 18.—The liberation of the German forces who had been enveloped west of Cherkassy and east of Shashkov on Thursday was the main event in the operations on the Eastern Front. These German forces had succeeded in standing their ground against vastly numerically superior Soviet forces. German panzer units, supported by motorized infantry, succeeded despite unfavorable weather conditions and morassic terrain to force a channel to this hedgehog position.

The German divisions which came to rescue their comrades had to fight stiff battles before they succeeded. The Soviet forces made strong counter-attacks daily in order to prevent a break-through to the German hedgehog position. After many ups and downs in fighting, contact was finally established on Thursday morning. By Thursday night, the bulk of the enveloped German troops were sluiced through the channel to the main German line.

Meanwhile, competent German quarters branded as an "invention" the Moscow report that the German troops in what they call the Kanev sector had been annihilated. They pointed out that since the start of the battle west of Cherkassy, the German command never tried to hide the seriousness of the situation. Quite the contrary, it emphasized more than once that the Soviet forces in this area were making concentric attacks on the German troops fighting in front of the main German lines.

Meanwhile, it was also learned that the enemy attacks at Vitebsk were growing weaker and that they all failed. West of Lake Ilmen, strong Soviet attacks were beaten off, while isolated local breaches were sealed in the southern sector and strong Soviet attacks were repulsed at Krivoirog.

Truk Landing Flatly Denied By Frank Knox

(Continued From Page 1)

for the Western Pacific and East Indies. The fact that Admiral Nimitz has been able to extend the American naval arm so far out for a direct attack on this important base presents one of the most dramatic and momentous developments in the Pacific War. The fact that such a campaign has become possible shows that the United States can mass-produce aircraft carriers and convoying warships. The Truk campaign does not mean that we have arrived at the last stage of our war with Japan but, as Mr. Churchill said in regard to the North African campaign, that we have entered the first stage of that war."

Spruance in Command

Domei

LISBON, February 18.—Admiral Raymond Spruance, Commander-in-Chief of the United States Central Pacific Fleet, is in command of the task force attacking the Truk Islands, it was announced today by United States Secretary of the Navy Frank Knox, according to a dispatch from Washington.

Roosevelt Evasive

Domei

LISBON, February 18.—President Franklin Roosevelt stated today at his press conference that he had no report concerning the attack on the Truk Islands, according to a dispatch from Washington reaching here.

Enemy's Ambition

The air attacks repeatedly made by the enemy on the Truk Islands make it manifest that it has an inordinate ambition of driving a wedge by force into the important line of defenses for the Japanese mainland.

The position occupied by the Truk Islands and the strategic importance possessed by them make the new offensive of the enemy against the islands fundamentally different in character from its operations against the Solomon and the Gilbert Islands.

It is a matter of universal knowledge that the traditional policy of the American navy is to invade and conquer the West Pacific.

Since 1925, when plans were determined by America for transoceanic operations carried out by the fleet in a ring formation, the American naval forces have been making a special effort to train themselves thoroughly in West Pacific operations in a series of maneuvers.

The stern fact of the air attacks upon the Truk Islands shows that the enemy, America, is challenging us to a decisive battle in the West Pacific under its traditional policy. It implies that the decisive fighting in the Pacific has at last entered on a momentous phase.

The strategic position of the Truk Islands is that they are situated at the most vital point on the supply route betwen the Japanese mainland and the southern war front, besides constituting an important point on the line of communication between the southern area of resources and the Japanese mainland. The islands are more than an essential point for the defense of the Japanese mainland.

STUDENTS TO TAKE EXAMS

Special Entrance Tests for Those From Asia Set March 16

Special entrance examinations will be conducted for the convenience of the students from all parts of Greater East Asia under the sponsorship of the Education Ministry.

The written examinations will take place on March 16 at the First Boys' Higher School and the oral and physical examinations on the following two days. The 590 students, who pass the examinations, will be admitted into the preparatory course attached to Tokyo University of Technology and 81 other colleges. It is further reported that special classes are to be set up for them in these colleges.

ALUMINA IS DISCOVERED NEAR BEPPU HOT SPRINGS

Dr. Oda of Kyushu Imperial University Inverts Valuable New Process

Vast resources of alumina have been discovered in the neighborhood of the Myoban Hot Springs at Beppu, Kyushu, by Dr. Nizo Oda, Professor in the Engineering Department of the Kyushu Imperial University.

After years of laborious research, he has invented a process by which sulphur flakes which are plentiful near these hot springs, can be turned into high-grade bauxite. Tests proved that this product which contains 36.5 per cent aluminum, 12.3 per cent of ferrous oxide, more than 1 per cent of silicic acid, and nearly 50 per cent of water, is far superior to bauxite which contains 50 per cent alumina and 5 per cent silicic acid.

According to Dr. Oda, it is quite easy to increase the output of these sulphur flakes in the neighborhood of the Beppu hot springs by more than 10,000 tons a year, provided there is necessary equipment. Should this be possible, Japan will be able to dispense with the necessity of importing bauxite from the Southern Regions.

To obtain his superior-grade bauxite, Dr. Oda first dissolved sulphur flakes in water, thus ridding them of silicic acid. Then concentrating this substance after it had been filtered, he restored it to its crystal-like form. After exposing it to heat, he found that the resulting bauxite contained 64.5 per cent of alumina, 33 per cent ferrous oxide, and 0.54 per cent silicic acid.

Scanty Foe Supplies Cause for Failure

(Continued From Page 1)

don, the North African regime and the Badoglio regime under the tender care of the United States and Britain have rendered quite clear. On the contrary, should she undertake such an adventure, she would not only invite Germany's counter-attack and lose at one stroke her European territory but her Asiatic territory would also be in danger of being seized by the United States and Britain. This fact could not be lost on the perspicacious leaders of the Turkish nation.

The peace policy of President Inonu, indeed, is enjoying the wholehearted support of the Turkish people precisely on that account. It is a common knowledge among the people of Turkey that so long as she firmly holds the Straits of Bosphorus and of Dardanelles she could command any reasonable measure of advantage in the present troublous international situation and also in the future.

War Entry Disastrous

It is all too plain that for Turkey to enter the war on the anti-Axis side in return for scanty munitions supplies from Britain would be to sell herself too cheap, especially when she takes into consideration the risk that would follow from such a course.

Turkey thus having spurned the British overture, the British press has now come out with a barrage of attacks against Ankara. "The anti-Axis nations are growingly suspicious that Turkey does not intend to perform her obligations under the Alliance Treaty," Reuters said recently. The Ankara correspondent of the Times, London, made this threat: "What we demand of Turkey is not her entry into the war. Negotiations for the use of Turkish airfields came near materialization but miscarried due to a difference of opinion between the Government and the military. Turkey will soon regret it."

It is only to be expected that the rupture of the Anglo-Turkish negotiations will result in increased anti-Axis pressure on Ankara, but there can be no doubt that Turkey, knowing the war aims of the Anglo-Americans and the real nature of their policy toward Europe, will respond with an unflinching resolve to defend her safety and sovereignty.

Turkey's attitude serves as further proof that the Anglo-Americans stand without hope of victory in the current war.

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South Borneo Farm Output Increase Plan Rapidly Leading to Food Self-Sufficiency

Domei

BANJERMASSIN, February 18.—With the object of realizing self-sufficiency in foodstuffs, South Borneo will embark upon a positive farm production increase plan laying special stress on rice cultivation as the cardinal item in 1944-45 administrative activities.

Details of the present plan, which will be carried out in accordance with the comprehensive foodstuff production increase plan throughout Borneo under the supervision of the Naval Administration, follow:

Firstly, to improve cultivation methods, construct irrigation ditches, reform the weeding system and enlarge rice-fields. Also to perfect the transportation system and to establish cereal warehouses in various districts.

Secondly, to encourage the mass production of vegetables. In this connection, as the soil of South Borneo is mostly clay the growing of vegetables is rendered difficult. However, last summer, the authorities concerned began experimental cultivation grounds and results from these have shown that it is possible to raise radishes, sesame, egg-plants and various kinds of potatoes. In view of this success, fields have been enlarged and extensive cultivation of vegetables have been started. Moreover competent authorities here have formulated plans to encourage schools, youth corps and factories as well as households to raise vegetables in gardens and plots to help bolster output.

Thirdly, to place more emphasis on breeding of domestic livestock, especially pigs. A pig-raising association was established last October to facilitate the supply of fodder and extend funds to pig-breeders. Since the association's establishment, a 30 per cent increase has already been witnessed in the raising of pigs.

Fourthly, to construct fish-breeding ponds. At present warehouses where large quantities of fish can be stored are being rapidly built.

To carry out these plans effectively, various areas have been designated as agricultural and livestock breeding centers.

British Forces In Arakan Zone Are Entrapped

(Continued from Page 1)

from India is on a small scale but that does not detract in the least from its strategic importance. At the moment the forces are not large. We attach great importance to the construction and extension of the Ledo route which is to take the place of the old Burma road.

"The steep hills with which the area is dotted and the bad climate are other factors impeding their progress. At the moment they are being fiercely attacked by the Japanese and terrific battles are proceeding at Thaifaugua and Taulou.

Suez Rail Accident

Special

ANKARA, February 18.—Sabotage in all probability caused the railway accident on the Suez-Cairo line near the station of Minah Tewfik, according to Cairo reports. Official investigations have not yet been concluded.

Heavy Losses Are Dealt Foe In Rabaul Area

(Continued From Page 1)

the morning of February 16, two planes were shot down by our Garrison Units, which suffered slight damage.

Foe Admits Damage

Domei

LISBON, February 18.—The Japanese Air Units attacked anti-Axis shipping in the waters off the western coast of Bougainville Island, causing damage and casualties, the headquarters of the anti-Axis forces in the Southwestern Pacific announced in a communique issued today, according to a Melbourne dispatch received here.

Enemy Shipping Attacked

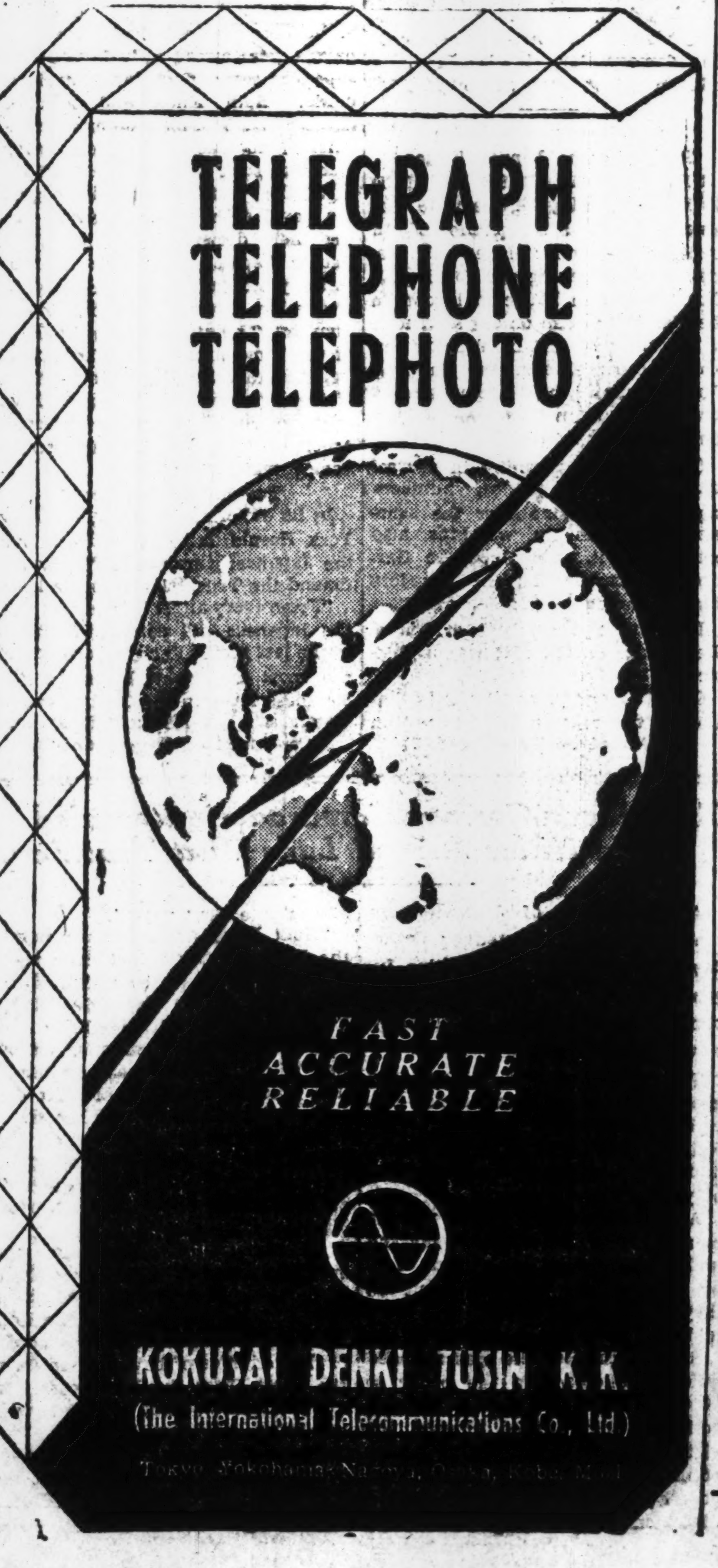
Domei

LISBON, February 18.—The Units of the Japanese Air Force attacked an anti-Axis convoy in the waters near Green Island, north of Bougainville Island, on February 15, the anti-Axis headquarters for the Southeastern Pacific announced, reports a special Mainichi dispatch from Melbourne reaching here.

Rome Bombed Again

Domei

BERLIN, February 18.—Rome again became the target of wanton bombings by an anti-Axis bomber formation, which attacked the city at 2 a.m. today, dropping numerous bombs on the residential quarters, according to a report from the city.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AUSSIE STRIKERS REFUSE TO WORK

Settlement Hope Distant; Give Reasons

Special

LISBON, February 18.—Hopes for an early settlement of the coal strikes in New South Wales, which resulted in the loss of over 300,000 tons in January, faded today when a conference being held for a settlement broke down, according to a Sydney dispatch.

Meanwhile, the Daily Telegraph of Sydney today published an amazing signed article by a coal miner who declared that the strikes were not due to a bitter feeling between the miners and the managements but to other causes, mainly taxation, which he said had taken away incentive to work.

The miner suggested that all miners' earnings above a certain sum be tax-free, declaring that the result would be decreases in stoppages of work and an increase in output.

He said that other demands by miners include the abolition of daylight saving, more butter, more beer, more cigarets, more meat and removal of restrictions on race broadcasting. The miner cynically added, "What the hell's the use of living."

U.S. IS HAVING HARD TIME TO MOBILIZE SERVICEMEN

Big Shortage Compels War Department to Reduce Number Of Men in Other Fields

Domei

LISBON, February 18.—In view of the acute shortage of servicemen in the United States, the number of men in all fields of service have been forced to be cut down drastically, it was announced by the U.S. War Department, a Washington dispatch revealed today.

The men mobilized for the army fell short by not less than 200,000 of the anticipated figure last year, the announcement explained. As a result, the authorities had no other alternative but to slash the number of men receiving special training from 145,000 down to 35,000 in order to maintain the absolute minimum of men absolutely necessary on the front line.

Other drastic cuts were absolutely necessary, the same announcement revealed. Last year's plans had hopefully anticipated the mobilization of at least 7,700,000 men, it is understood.

Mighty Reich Guns Blast Foe in Italy

(Continued From Page 1)

Ulus commented on the fact that the Anglo-Americans had accomplished practically nothing after 25 days of hard fighting, it is reported from Ankara. "The situation there in fact has become critical for the anti-Axis," the journal said, adding that the "Germans have demonstrated to the Anglo-Americans that they were able to concentrate strong forces quickly at threatened points." The paper said that the Americans now were presumably beginning to realize that they had greatly underestimated Germany's defensive strength.

PROTESTANTS IN P.I. VOW LOYALTY TO PRESIDENT

Agree to Aid Government in Increased Food Cultivation, Other Policies

Domei

MANILA, February 18.—Representatives of 14 Protestant organizations led by Dr. Enrique Sobrepena, Head of the United Evangelical Church, pledged support to the Administration in a conference held this morning with Engracio Fabe, Director of the Bureau of Religious Affairs.

The conferees agreed to help enforce various Government policies including increased food cultivation, and reforms in the educational and social fields.

On behalf of the colleagues, Dr. Sobrepena offered full cooperation of all the Protestant representatives present at the conference.

Before the meeting was adjourned, Rev. Alejandro of the Methodist Church led a prayer for the success of the Republic and for divine light to guide the Chief Executive.

The conferees were luncheon guests at the Ministry of Home Affairs, where Vice-Minister Guillermo Francisco spoke and the message of Vice-Minister Arsenio Bonifacio was read.

Honors Given 312 Civilians By Navy Office

(Continued From Page 1)

who has been decorated with the Eighth Class Order of the Sacred Treasure; Soeji Wada, of the Yomiuri who has been granted the Seventh Class Order of the Sacred Treasure; Kenkichi Higuchi of the Domei News Agency, Kazuo Umehara of the Miyako, Takahisa Hatakeyama, chief of the Camera Department of the Hochi and Jitsuzo Imoto of the Camera Department of the Fukuoka Nichi Nichi who have each been awarded the Eighth Class Order of the Sacred Treasure, Kazuo Shimada of the Manchuria Nichi Nichi and Tomisaburo Hashimoto, assistant chief of the Osaka Asahi's Shanghai branch, who have each been awarded the Sixth Class Order of the Sacred Treasure.

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ALL INDIA AWAITING ARMY OF AZAD HIND

More Than 100,000 Desert Enemy Ranks to Join Bose's Legion of Deliverance

The 380,000,000 people of India are anxiously waiting for the day when the tricolor flag of the Provisional Government of Azad Hind will be displayed over the Government-General, and that day will not be too far distant, judging by the pace at which the Indian National Army, under the direction of Subhas Chandra Bose, keeps on marching toward Delhi, according to a dispatch to the Mainichi from the Burma-India border dated February 17.

The Indian National Army, which has started on the march on Delhi, is advancing with the force of an avalanche, the dispatch says. Their path lies across the Arakan mountains and the border regions of Bengal Province.

At the moment they are marching across the jungle lands of the Mayu range, in close collaboration with the Japanese Forces. Protected by the Japanese Ground, Air and Sea Forces which are acting as one body, the determined Indian soldiers are battling on day and night.

The transfer of the Provisional Government of Azad Hind to Burma from Shonan where the organization was inaugurated was an event that profoundly impressed the masses in India. To them it was a long-cherished desire now nearly within their grasp.

It brought tremendous encouragement to the Indian masses in their struggle against the British who are to blame for all the evils afflicting their country.

Sabotage Troubles British

Violent demonstrations of hate for Britain are of daily occurrence throughout the country, notably in Bengal Province. The sinking of the tugboat Kent belonging to the British fleet was followed by the blasting of coal mines, factories, military trains, and strategic bridges.

On top of all this came the bombing outrage in the shopping center of Bombay on the night of January 25, which resulted in the loss of one life. A similar affair occurred in the same city on the following morning, resulting in injuries to four persons.

From this time the Indian people entered a period of sabotage aimed against the British.

More than 100,000 Indians have deserted the Anglo-Indian army since the outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia.

About 15,000 of them managed to escape with their arms. These are waiting for the arrival of the Indian National Army with the idea of joining it.

Subhas Chandra Bose's heroic forces, which are steadily advancing on to Delhi, are carrying with them great quantities of rice for the starving Indian masses. The route along which they are hurrying is the same route used by the erstwhile British Governor of Burma in his flight to India before the advancing Japanese forces in the early part of the War of Greater East Asia.

IRON, STEEL FIRMS DECIDE ON MERGER

Showa, Tungpientao, Penchihu Joined

Domei

HSINKING, February 18.—With a view to phenomenally expanding the production of iron and steel, the Showa Steel Works, the Penchihu Coal and Iron Company and the Tungpientao (Eastern District) Development Company will be merged into the Manchuria Iron Manufacturing Company, Ltd., it was announced by the Manchoukuo Government today.

The announcement followed the approval yesterday of the merger by the Privy Council yesterday.

The new combine, a special corporation will be capitalized at ¥740,000,000, of which ¥640,000,000 will be paid up. It will open business on April 1 and will have its head offices in Anshan.

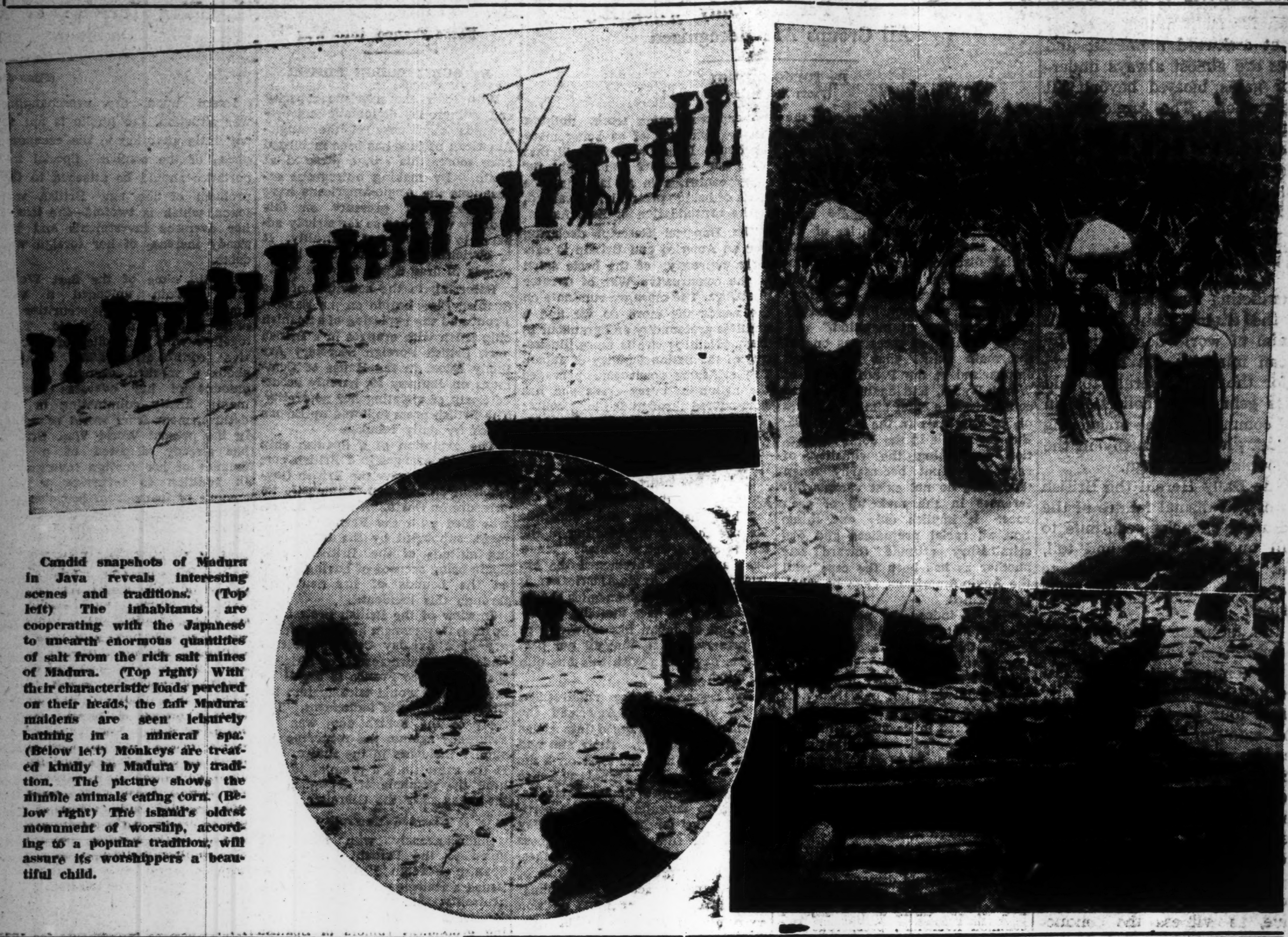
Showa Steel (capitalized at ¥400,000,000), Penchihu Coal and Iron (capitalized at ¥200,000,000) and Tungpientao Development (capitalized at ¥140,000,000) as sister companies and affiliations of the South Manchuria Railway Company have played an important role, in close cooperation with one another, in the development of the iron and steel deposits in the country since the inauguration of the first five-year program.

High expectations are held out that, by a unified and coordinated utilization of the technique, materials, funds and facilities at the disposal of the three companies, maximum productive efficiency can be achieved.

Evangelical Service Today

An Evangelical Service will be held at the German Church (Th. Jaeckel) in Tokyo at 10:30 a.m. today.

Pictures From Madra, Java



Candid snapshots of Madura in Java reveals interesting scenes and traditions. (Top left) The inhabitants are cooperating with the Japanese to unearth enormous quantities of salt from the rich salt mines of Madura. (Top right) With their characteristic loads perched on their heads, the fair Madura maidens are seen leisurely bathing in a mineral spa. (Below left) Monkeys are treated kindly in Madura by tradition. The picture shows the nimble animals eating corn. (Below right) The island's oldest monument of worship, according to a popular tradition, will assure its worshippers a beautiful child.

PHILIPPINES FORMS EDUCATION COUNCIL

Laurel Says Nationalistic Spirit Must Be Instilled in Young Filipino Minds

Domei

MANILA, February 18.—The creation of an Educational Council and four new departments to take charge of the administrative technique of education was announced by President Jose P. Laurel in the course of his radio address to school teachers from the local broadcasting station urging the enhancement of the Rizal spirit and a reform of education.

The Council will be made up of the Minister and Vice-Minister of Education, members of the Educational Deliberative Commission, the bureau chiefs of the Ministry of Education, school principals holding the ranks of Education Ministry bureau chiefs and others. The new organ will have the final deciding voice in matters affecting national educational policies.

The four new departments are (1) the Administration, (2) Curriculum and Text-book, (3) Teachers' Training and (4) Planning, Investigation and Awards. Placed under the direct jurisdiction of the Minister and Vice-Minister of Education, these departments are to make recommendations from technical viewpoints.

Much significance is attached to the new measures which are aimed at a thoroughgoing educational reform through the unification of opinion on national education, unified control of public and private schools and re-training of teachers.

Laurel Praises Teachers

Domei

MANILA, February 18.—Addressing teachers of the Philippines, President Jose P. Laurel, in a radio speech yesterday afternoon, praised their efforts in "bringing up a generation of Filipinos who would do credit to the Philippines as an independent nation."

Stressing the need of propagating nationalism in schools, he said, "I believe the nationalistic spirit must be inculcated in the minds of our youth, not only for self-protection and self-preservation, but for the purpose of intensifying the love of the country and bringing about a type of citizenry after the great hero, Doctor Rizal."

He added, "I would like to have developed in this country, a type of Filipino who will be patriotic, honest and upright, and at the same time, simple and frugal in his way of living."

President Laurel stated that one way of attaining the desired objectives is through teaching the national language which "is an expression of the national soul."

Giving credit to the work of teachers in the remotest municipalities and barrios of the country, the President told them: "Don't forget that while you may not receive the plaudits of the multitude, you nevertheless are performing a task as noble as that of Christ or Rizal."

He urged fellow teachers to give him support in his concurrent capacity as Minister of Education in "the formation of a new type of Filipino manhood and womanhood."

Laurel outlined the functions of teachers as follows: 1. Propagate knowledge and develop the character of citizens. 2. Preserve the political independence and freedom of the Philippines. 3. Help the Government self-sufficiency program.

Many Schools Operating

Domei

MANILA, February 18.—Indicative of the progress being attained in public instruction, over 1,370 public, elementary and secondary schools, with an enrollment of more than 500,000 are now operating throughout the Philippines, according to the Bureau of Public Instruction.

With X X recent appropriations of pesos 1,200,000 for maintenance of additional classes, more schools are expected to be opened shortly.

MANCHOUKUO TO ADOPT NEW PHONETIC LETTERS

By Use of Manchou Syllabary All Chinese Characters Are Easily Expressed

Domei

HSINKING, February 17.—It has been disclosed that new phonetic signs for Chinese characters, replacing Chinese phonetic signs generally used hitherto in China and Manchoukuo, will be officially adopted in the near future by the Education Ministry here.

To be called Manchou syllabary," the new signs, fundamentally, are composed of 70 Japanese syllables, including consonants and semi-vowels, which have been most popularized in Manchoukuo.

By use of this Manchou syllabary and the special signs of Chinese vocalization, all Chinese characters are easily expressed. Satisfactory results with the new signs have been attained in experiments at 20 primary schools in this country.

It is recalled that the Manchoukuo Government in 1928 organized a committee consisting of 13 men connected with the Government, the Concordia Association, the Taung Academy and the Supreme Court to formulate the new Manchou syllabary. The committee recently completed the work after seven years of study.

After two years of experiment in various fields, the new signs will be officially adopted by the Education Ministry.

DEFENDERS IN NORTH SET TO REPULSE FOE

Nippon Troops Prepared as Enemy Sends Reinforcements To Aleutian Bases

By K. CHIBA
Of the Navy Press Corps

UNDISCLOSED BASE IN THE NORTHERN PACIFIC, February 17.—With the words, "Let the enemy come!" as their battlecry, the Japanese Forces stationed in the northernmost positions are daily tightening their defense and are ever ready to deal smashing blows to the enemy who are reported to have sent reinforcements of over 10,000 troops and 1,000 aircraft to the Aleutians preparatory to carrying out raids against the Japanese mainland.

Along with the desperate counter-offensives in the Central and South Pacific, the enemy is attempting guerilla operations in the North Pacific. We must not slight the enemy's loud bragging that the shortest road will be selected in order to launch large-scale raids on Japan and their sinister design must be closely watched and shattered accordingly.

With the gallant death of the Japanese heroes on Attu Island and the strategic withdrawal of the Japanese Forces from Kiska Island, the distance between the Japanese first line and that of the enemy has been greatly shortened. After the transfer of the Japanese Forces, the enemy strengthened his positions in the Aleutians by sending reinforcements of mobile units in accordance with his sinister design of fortifying Kiska and Attu islands.

The Aleutian Islands including Dutch Harbor, Unalaska, Kiska and Attu islands are equipped with more than 1,000 aircraft. The naval forces stationed there include the strongly reinforced North Pacific fleet under the command of Vice-Admiral Frank Fletcher, Commander in the North Pacific area, various kinds of vessels which can be easily mobilized and the Marines who have been specially trained to withstand the severe cold.

The enemy air force attempted its first guerilla attack on the Japanese northernmost base on September 12 last year. On that occasion 11 out of the 18 planes which dared to appear over the base were brought down by the Japanese Forces. From that time for more than three months until December 21, the enemy remained quiet. Then from December 21 the enemy started guerilla operations again, appearing in formations of several planes and dropping incendiary bombs indiscriminately.

The enemy's speedy fortification of his northernmost bases and his constant guerilla operations eloquently attest to his insidious scheme.

In anticipation of large-scale air-raids by the enemy as well as of the sinister move of their naval forces, the Japanese Forces in the northernmost bases are tightening their defense in spite of innumerable obstacles and adversities. Fully prepared to check the advance of the enemy forces, our fearless troops staunchly declare, "Let the enemy come!"

Academy Commencement

Graduation exercises for the Hiroshima Preparatory Military Academy was held Friday in the presence of a staff member of the Inspectorate-General of Military Education, Commander of the Hiroshima Division and others, according to Domei.

C.R.B. BRANCH IN HSUCHOW

Domei

SHANGHAI, February 17.—The Hsuchow branch office of the Central Reserve Bank of China will open business next week, it was learned.

Kao Shu-ying, assistant manager of the Nanking general office of the Central Reserve Bank of China will head the newly-established branch office.

It is learned, meantime, that the Central Reserve Bank expects to create new agencies at Haichow, Lienyunchiang, both in northeastern Kiangsu Province, Ywaiyin in western Kiangsu Province and Suhsien in northern Anhwei Province.

PEACE RUMORS FAIL TO SHAKE AXIS UNITY

Anglo-U.S. Circulating Talks Due to Change in Their Ties With Soviets

Though reports of a German-Soviet peace and a German-British peace are emanating from American and British sources, Japan is giving no heed to such rumors, according to Domei.

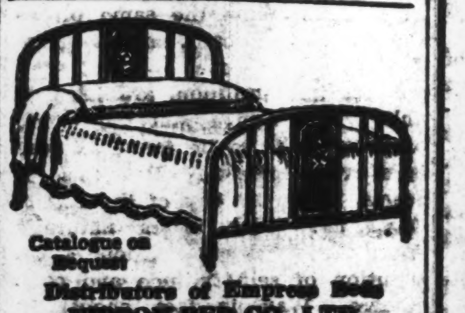
Domei's comment, in part, follows:

Newspapers of America, Britain and the Soviet Union have lately been circulating rumors about the possibility of a German-Soviet peace and a British-German peace. Taking their cue from such reports, newspapers of neutral countries are also indulging in similar utterances.

This present rumor is but one of many such outbursts which appear in the American and British press from time to time. However, this particular one differs from previous ones in that it has the implication of a political maneuver on the part of America and Britain, prompted by a delicate change that is taking place in the relations between America and Britain on the one side and the Soviet Union on the other.

Without a doubt, such activities on the part of the anti-Axis press have but one purpose—that of causing unrest and disturbing peoples' thoughts not only in Germany and Japan but also in neutral countries. The dangers of an "epidemic" of this kind, which is far more vicious than the Spanish flu, cannot be exaggerated. Should anyone be so careless as to be influenced by such unfounded rumors, he would most certainly be committing an unpardonable crime.

For, according to many officials and business men who have recently returned from Germany, the people of that country, unshakably confident of their ultimate victory, are cheerfully exerting their utmost in cooperating with Japan in the construction of a new world which shall not be dominated by the plutocrats of America and Britain. Nothing can alter their strong determination to continue their bitter struggle with the enemy until final victory is theirs.



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TOKYO, SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 1944

The Truth Always Hurts

One thing the American and British military authorities can always be relied upon is their consistent policy of hiding the truth when it hurts. The British began early by pompously boasting about the "impregnability" of their position in France—just before their forces abandoned their hard-pressed former allies and streaked ignominiously for the coast and Dunkirk. The Americans started on the very day they entered the war of their own making by brazenly hiding the facts about Pearl Harbor.

Once in a while the Anglo-Americans throw out a few scraps of "bad news"—if it isn't too bad—just to keep up the pretense that their war news is not entirely distorted. But the truth, the real truth, always hurts their sensitive palates.

The latest example of this Anglo-American policy can be seen in the ban imposed by the American Fifth Army in Italy over the direct filing of press dispatches from the Anzio bridgehead. There is no question of military security in this move, because American Secretary of War Henry Stimson himself has admitted with rather naive frankness that the American military authorities took this step on account of the "unwarranted pessimism" appearing in some of the news dispatches describing the Anzio operations. Strangely enough, the United States Office of War Information, which has been instigator and party to some of the most obvious news-twisting stunts in the past, has chimed in the chorus of protest against the latest ban, with Director Elmer Davis smirkingly confiding to the press that he is "making representations" to the United States army over this matter. At the same time, the British press circles have also confirmed the fact that the Anzio press ban is the result of this persistent policy of hiding the unpleasant truth. One British correspondent has reported that the American Fifth Army is "annoyed" over the unfavorable reports sent by the war correspondents regarding the fighting at the Anzio and Nettuno bridgeheads.

The pessimism being expressed in the war dispatches, obviously enough, is primarily due to the fact that the Italian operations have bogged down for the anti-Axis forces, with tremendous sacrifices being made for the sake of insignificant gains. But naturally this is not all that lies beneath the surface of the indignation being felt by both the American and British war commanders in that area over the gloomy reports. There is the question of the establishment of the Second Front, which has been put off time and time again by the Anglo-Americans. The landing of the Anglo-American forces at the various Italian bridgeheads was supposed to have been in the nature of rehearsals for the eventual landing operations in Western Europe, and the failure of these initial attempts has galled the Anglo-American commanders no end. The difficulties they have confronted in the recent Italian operations bode ill for any future attempt to invade a territory where the Germans hold all the trump cards, and they know it. Therein lies the cause of their irritation, the reason for the feud between the military authorities and the war correspondents. It is not a question of how the Italian operations will eventually turn out; the current situation shows plainly that nothing that the Anglo-American forces have done so far has been worth all the efforts, the time and the casualties sustained. From a purely military viewpoint, the anti-Axis strategy in Italy can already be considered a resounding failure. Even politically, the inability of the Anglo-American military authorities to establish satisfactory peace, order and stability in Southern Italy points to an embarrassing failure.

The Anglo-American war leaders are determined to carry on this war, however great the cost and however disastrous for their peoples, no matter what is happening now or what may happen in the future. Their personal political ambitions depend on the continuation of this war, and consequently they are doing everything to force their people into believing that all is well. That is why bad news is virtually always suppressed, until there is absolutely no way of preventing the people from knowing. That is the reason for the prolific concoction and releasing of sensational atrocity stories when the actual military situation is unfavorable; that is the reason for sudden tightening of censorship bans at awkward moments; and that is why losses are almost always understated and minor gains bloated beyond all possibility of recognition. The Anglo-American military authorities recognize and are acting on the fact that the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth would in all probability have a fatal effort on Anglo-American war efforts.

Swaggering in Asia

Varied and conflicting have been the war aims voiced in the enemy camp to mask their own true aim of world domination by an Anglo-American minority. It has, however, remained for the Daily Herald to add the most priceless gem to the collection, in a recent editorial comment on the staggering blow Japan has just given the enemy in the present Mayu mountain campaign.

According to the Daily Herald the British must, as a result of this dismal failure of the loud-trumpeted Burma offensive, continue to expend their full quota of blood and toil, tears and sweat, or resign themselves to "seeing the Japanese swagger in their occupied territories".

"To prevent the Japanese from swaggering in occupied territories" is, as a war aim, a far cry and a tremendous fall from "fighting for our lives and liberties," incidentally unthreatened, the "four freedoms", or "to make the world safe for democracy". It brings us nearer, however, to the heart of British prejudice and Britain's real reason for wishing to continue the losing battle in East Asia. The British racially find it intolerable that the peoples of Asia should be able to stand erect and demand equality. In British eyes, moreover, "swaggering in occupied territories" is an exclusive Anglo-Saxon prerogative, as witness the conduct and actions of the British in East Asia before they were swept out of this region by Japan's armies of liberation, and their present actions in India, North Africa, Asia Minor, and wherever else they have set their feet. Only the British, their American offspring, or their Dutch cousins, could have put up signs "Dogs and Chinese not admitted" in parks in China, barred the Indonesians from clubs, hotels and sports grounds in their own isles, or put behind bars in India itself 80,000 Indians who dared to exercise the right of free speech and demand independence for their own India. This represents the ne plus ultra of swaggering. The British need have no fear, however. Except through the distorting glass of their own racial prejudice and guilty conscience they will never see the Japanese following their deplorable example and "swaggering in occupied territories." They might well spare their blood and toil, tears and sweat for some more useful purpose than to lament or tilt at this contingency which can never arise.

Aside from the fact that of all the peoples in the world the Japanese are the least temperamentally given to swaggering, they are in what the Herald terms "their occupied territories" as liberators and defenders with the joyous welcome of the peoples concerned. The Japanese are there to help the people of these regions to their feet after centuries dire oppression at British hands and to forestall further aggressive British or American intrusion in East Asia. They came to sweep out the occidental conqueror who so long swaggered as overlord in these regions. They remain to prevent his return. The Japanese came to destroy the Anglo-American bases of aggression in Asia from which they swaggeringly menaced Japan They came not to swagger after the Anglo-American model, but to uphold the principle of racial equality, to restore the national and racial pride of the peoples of this region, to defend their long-usurped rights and enable them at last to take their natural place, in unmolested cooperation with their fellow states of Greater East Asia, as independent nations.

This lofty national policy of Japan would alone absolutely preclude the swaggering to which the British have ever shown themselves so woefully addicted in Asia, even were the Japanese individually or as a people far less free of this British national vice than they are.

The British press must indeed be hard put to it to allay the shock caused in Britain by the crushing defeat just suffered on the Indo-Burmese border at the hands of the Japanese and Indian National Armies; they must find it difficult indeed to rally the British for further sacrifice in the already lost cause of British hegemony in East Asia, if they must express their dismay by such arrant nonsense as talk of resigning themselves to seeing things that are not there.

Japan For Equality of Races

Common Prosperity Possible Only When Rights of All Groups Are Recognized

By TOYOO OGUSHI
(From the Kaizo)

In the fifth and last item of the Joint Declaration of the Greater East Asiatic Nations the racial problem of the Common Prosperity Regions is solved:

"The countries of Greater East Asia will cultivate friendly relations with all the countries of the world, and work for the abolition of racial discriminations, the promotion of cultural intercourse and the opening of resources throughout the world, and contribute thereby to the progress of mankind."

The equality of races was one of the main points that Japan had emphasized at the Peace Treaty of World War I, and again, the same constitutes the chief aim of the people of East Asia in the present era. But, the article in the Joint Declaration concerning the equality of races does not necessarily mean that there do not exist various differences in the make-up of each race. It implies only one thing; that all racial prejudices and discriminatory attitude toward one another as has been the case with the Anglo-Americans, is to be wholly abolished.

This is indeed an pochal event in the history of the world. It means that Japan's long-cherished desire to realize a magnanimous spirit of racial equality has at last been fulfilled, if not universally, in East Asia at least, which will hereafter proceed in its various humane activities based upon that one great cornerstone of racial equality.

Not Counteracting

But the present attitude of the Greater East Asiatic Nations is not to counteract the white race. What East Asia asserts is only the equality of races. It is only natural that each group should demand for itself equality of treatment, the right to live on this earth, and to enjoy a common home-like, prosperous and happy existence. The demand for this alone is set forth in the Joint Declaration of Greater East Asia.

For, nothing other than the immediate riddance of racial prejudice and discrimination can herald universal peace on earth. That alone will succeed in bringing about true progress in the morality of human life; that alone can accord with our generous spirit of Universal Brotherhood.

The racial problem, in fact, rests on whether man's integrity is essentially recognized or not. The problem brings us back to the essentiality of life and material things; to God, man, and the world. These three must be completely understood before it can be hoped that anything harmonious be gained. The fact that the Greater East Asiatic Nations have gotten together to proclaim the impartial treatment of races is sufficient proof that they have experienced all the ordeals of life. This is not to be waived aside as being merely a religious way of viewing life. The East Asiatic people have transcended all meannesses and an elemental will to live a perfectly common life, to enjoy a common prosperity in a common spiritual atmosphere constitutes the pith of what they aim on earth.

An attempt to make this point clear to the world had been the principal motive of the Assembly of Greater East Asiatic Nations held in Tokyo. In a sense, it can be called a Family Council of East Asiatic nations.

For East Asia to exist hereafter as one family does not mean to restrict the regions into a small, exclusive area, but that the entire world is to be taken as one large family. It is this that the Asiatic conception of the "family" hold as most valuable. To be able to live in a home-like, family atmosphere means to be able to help one another out when help is needed, the strong to guide the weak. The power of the strong is to be considered as a sort of duty or responsibility to aid and to uplift their neighbors through sacrificial efforts. The weaker, are not to remain languid or content in being guided, but should strive with equal efforts to understand wholeheartedly the truth behind the sacrificial spirit of those who lead them; they should endeavor to cooperate with those who guide for a common ideal.

Egoism Transcended

For the full enjoyment of racial equality, all formal, cold-blooded thoughts are to be transcended; all egocentric thoughts based on individual profit should be altogether done away with.

Participating in the Assembly of Greater East Asiatic Nations were the leading nations of Japan, Manchoukuo, China, Thailand, the Philippines, Burma and Free India. Especially significant was the fact that through each delegate was visible the cooperative spirit of the people of whom he represented.

When we think that such a grand conference was made possible only through the united spirit of the various people of East Asia and by the heroic stand being taken by Japan in her construction work, nothing can be conceived of as being more felicitous. It can even be said that what our ancestors had sought for many centuries is at last on the verge of being spectacularly realized, in the consolidation of East Asia.

The Imperial Rescript declaring war on America and Britain is candidly expressive of the basic spirit of the constructive War of Greater East Asia. The more we ruminate on the words the more do we find a limitless profoundity and grandeur in them. Nothing else is more illustrative of the national policy of Japan. The self-same spirit has pervaded the nation in every crisis she has encountered through the long course of her history. In the Sino-Japanese War, the Russo-Japanese War, and in the first World War, Japan had risen with that same spirit deeply rooted in her heart. Doubly true is the case with the present War.

When has ever the Japanese Empire thought of meddling in the affairs of the United States? When has Japan ever threatened the existence of the Anglo-Americans? It is high time that our enemies should awaken to the fact that the persistent aim of Japan has always been to preserve peace, that all her past efforts have been with this one aim in mind.

By reason of the ruthlessness alone of the Anglo-American the world has been dragged into chaos and infinite misery. Their aim had been to dominate the East on a deceptive pretext for peace. This has clearly been proven by their actions thus far, and it can be certified by the foreboding plans they harbor for future action. Witness India! Witness the Philippines! What better proofs can there be of their criminal actions and aims? They themselves are in no position to refute their own outright ignominies.

For Selfish Ends

The Anglo-Americans have not hesitated to oppress others for selfish ends. Especially in Asia have they shown no scruples in invading and looting wherever and whatever they could with the wolvish purpose of enslaving the people of the East. Their aim has been to uproot the security of Asia for their own enjoyment. This then led to the outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia.

But the fall of the Anglo-American nations is now imminent. Not only have their aims been of no avail, but their internal structure is on the verge of collapse. The disintegration of Britain is clearly visible. America, too, though she be seemingly invulnerable, will sooner or later meet her Waterloo, considering the internal turmoil she is suffering at the moment.

With their fall, the shape of the world will see a great change for the good. Not only in the East, but throughout the world will the hitherto oppressed nations be able to enjoy a common millenium.

"Each East Asiatic nation will cooperate for the preservation of stability, and the establishment of an order for common prosperity, based upon moral principles. Unless each nation should be set free to enjoy full independence, a true "family" order cannot be evolved. This does not mean a random one based on formality and rights, as is the case with the Anglo-Americans, but a sound system based on racial equality.

Thailand's territorial integrity has been guaranteed, and India, also, set well on her road to freedom owing to Japan's sacrificial efforts. Judging others by themselves, it might be that the Anglo-Americans would only sneer at our actions. Their method of interpreting like situations is to presuppose that there can exist no action that is not based on profit. That is their fixed conception of things, in general. It is for this reason that they are innately unable to trust to the value of moral principles.

But let us stop here and consider. Which is the wiser: to blight the lives of millions of people through never ending hostilities or to adjust the various basic conditions of life, under moral principles, for its stabilization.

Post-War World

Those who are desirous at all for a sound stability in East Asia and who should cast an eye on the post-war peace in the world should avoid falling into the same pit as the Anglo-Americans and to judge things in their way.

Peace and tradition, are inseparable. To conceive that the womb of progress is to be found in war is a crass mistake. But this, it seems, is the malady of the Anglo-American, which comes naturally from the want of tradition; a destitution of self-fortitude and composure. War, in fact, should be waged not upon others, but upon one's self.

Hence it is, that the post-war world should see each and all nations "respecting the traditional significances of one another, and of fostering the creative capacity of each," if a vast world culture is to be established. Therein, alone, would exist what might be called "youth and virility" in life, as well as the assurance of a pure and eternal progress.

The enemy way of thought is that unless one thing or other is eliminated progress is inconceivable. But what matters rather is the "cause and effect" of things. To discern the relative values of every phase of life in what constitutes the fundamental principle of mutual benevolence. But this has been entirely ignored by the Anglo-Americans. Their way has been to mutilate everything that is even partially at fault. This has led their history to reek with blood and to clamor with mutiny.

On the contrary, in the way of the Asiatics everything is preserved with benevolence. In the economic field, too, this immutable spirit of mutual benevolence would be the underlying postwar principle of the Asiatics. All the world is to go hand in hand intimately and benevolently for the acute improvement of world economy, and thereby, to evolve a common prosperity throughout the world at large.

The spirit underlying the Joint Declaration of Greater East Asiatic nations is, of course, the same as that which had based the founding of the Japanese Empire. We repeat that it is precisely this spirit that we are at this moment striving to enlighten to the world.

ANGLO-U.S. OPPRESSION OF SPAIN

Accusations Are Mere Pretexts to Force Franco into War

By OUR FOREIGN EDITOR

With their characteristic rapacity and evilness the diplomatic and propaganda machinery of the Anglo-American nations has been mobilized once more, this time directed at Spain. By making outrageous accusations the Anglo-Americans have increased their pressure on this country which has so far strictly adhered to her policy of neutrality. It is obviously clear that their intention is to drag Spain into the war.

Referring to the activities of the Spanish Blue Legion on the Eastern Front and the explosion of a Spanish ship laden with oranges in a British port, British Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden, in the House of Commons on January 19, harshly accused Spain of violating her neutrality. The British press followed up Eden's attack by daily rebukes.

The explosion of a Spanish ship laden with oranges in a British port on January 15 gave the British Government an occasion to intensify its pressure on Spain. A strong protest was filed with the Franco Government, supported by the incriminating attitude of the British press, Spain being accused of having violated the bounds of her neutrality through this incident.

In view of the British protest the Spanish Government held from January 21 a five-day Cabinet meeting under the chairmanship of Chief-of-State Francisco Franco to decide on the policy it would take against the British diplomatic indictment. The reply to the British note was the assurance against the recurrence of similar incidents in the future, and, at the same time, a promise to prohibit the domicile of foreigners in the areas near the Gibraltar.

Clarified Neutrality

Simultaneously with the reply given to the British Government, Spanish Foreign Minister Jordana issued a statement clarifying Spain's neutrality. He said, "Although the foreign press and radio are circulating groundless rumors of Spanish activities with the purpose of trying to force Spain to join the war, the Spanish Government will decide its own diplomatic policy without the interference of other Powers."

The Foreign Minister's letter to the editor of El Arriba, official organ of the Falangist Party, to the same effect was published on January 27. Thus, Spain's neutrality was made unmistakably clear.

Evidently irritated by the staunch attitude taken by Spain, the British Government resorted to her strategy of war of nerves against the Spanish people. On January 28, together with the United States, she made a threat to cut off all supplies of petroleum to Spain. Reports from Washington reveal why the threat was made. They are: (1) the rejection by the Spanish Government of the British demand for the surrender of Italian ships, (2) failure to check the activities of German agents in Spanish territories, (3) continuing to supply war materials to Germany, (4) the cooperation of the Spanish Blue Legion with the German forces on the Eastern Front, and (5) the alleged conclusion of a secret trade agreement with Germany, thereby giving the latter a large amount of credit.

Based on the five points above, the British Government claimed that Spain had violated her obligations as a neutral. However, none of these points seems to constitute any plausible reason. The refusal to surrender Italian ships was only natural since the Anglo-American nations could show no proof of their ownership to them. Moreover, the accusation against Spain for harboring German agents is just another example of the worn-out tactics of Anglo-Americans. The falsity of this accusation is beyond doubt. Again, there is no ground for the third accusation nor for the fourth. The Spanish Blue Legion has already been disbanded and the volunteers fighting against the Soviets on the Eastern Front are doing so on their own initiative. The Anglo-Americans have no right to protest on this score because these same nations could not prevent their own nationals from participating in the People's Front in the Spanish Revolution. Regarding the last accusation, it may be said that Spain as a neutral nation is justified in making economic agreements with whomever she cares to choose.

Are Mere Excuses

Thus, the five accusations of the Anglo-Americans are nothing but mere pretexts and poor excuses to force Spain to give up her neutrality. There is no doubt that behind these charges the Anglo-Americans are harboring intentions to get a foothold on the European continent, seeing that there is little possibility of their proposed second front being successful. It is nothing but a war of nerves to break down Spain so that they can make an opening in the European Fortress to facilitate their contemplated military operations on the continent.

However, sensing the futility of their diplomatic pressure on Spain, the Anglo-Americans have turned to economic boycott, banning the export of petroleum to that country. Following in the steps of the United States, Britain is also planning to stop the export of coal and wheat to Spain.

The general opinion expressed in the German political circles is that the Anglo-American acts only indicate the weakness of the mentality of the Anglo-American people. At any rate, it can be expected, that Spain, with her glorious history and tradition, will live up to the World's expectation and uphold her sovereignty and integrity in spite of the increasing pressure brought upon her by the Anglo-American nations.

War Debts—Britain's Headache

Appalling Increase of Commitments Foreshadows Imminent Economic Collapse

(From the Diamond)

Intent upon the everchanging war situation, the public is apt to pay little attention to the economic phase of the conflict. Special importance should be attached to the problem of the new British war loans, which is twofold—the loss of her overseas investments and the steady increase of her foreign war debts.

At the time of the first World War, Britain unloaded a vast amount of American securities in order to obtain financial aid. This, together with her policy of restrictive control thereafter, brought about a marked decrease in the amount of her overseas investments, finally culminating in her dethronement from world economy. In the present World War, Britain has already disposed of a vast amount of her foreign investments in addition to incurring a vast amount of loans from her overseas possessions and from the United States.

True, both the United States and Britain have been paying closest attention to the solution of the problems of their war loans in the present war. Such contrivances as the Lend-Lease arrangement and the British-Canadian Mutual Aid Act have been adopted in order to avoid the repetition of their past bitter experiences. However, Britain must accommodate capital to the various sterling countries which require funds to import goods from the United States. But she has virtually exhausted her gold and foreign currency supply, while the amount of sterling funds accumulated by the sterling bloc countries has mounted with the steady expansion of her war expenditure. There is no way of solving this problem at present.

Kingsley Estimate

According to the estimate made by Kingsley, the total amount of Britain's overseas investments for 1938 was placed at 3,600,000,000 pounds. But judging from the condition of Britain's international accounts immediately before the outbreak of the present World War, the figures at the time may have been something like 3,500,000,000 pounds.

American views on the future of British economy contained in the 15th number of the Wartime American Series published by Oxford University entitled "The Future of British Trade," are as follows:

"On August 31, 1939 the total amount of Britain's gold specie was estimated at 500,000,000 pounds, while her dollar funds was set at 150,000,000 pounds. In addition to these, Britain had made direct investments, security and other commitments in the United States, aggregating 475,000,000 pounds; and her various investments in her overseas possessions and dominions totaled 2,275,000,000 pounds. Moreover, her investments in other overseas countries in nominal value were placed at 1,600,000,000 pounds, but when the reduction in the yield and deterioration of factories are taken into consideration, the real amount will be roughly about 800,000,000 pounds."

At the time of the outbreak of the present war, the British Government announced the total amount of her gold specie and dollar funds to be 1,121,000,000 pounds which was subdivided as follows: gold specie, 510,000,000 pounds; deposits, 149,000,000 pounds; securities, 237,000,000 pounds; and miscellaneous investments, 225,000,000 pounds. This shows a difference of only 4,000,000 pounds compared with the above figures given by the American experts.

We may then venture to say that Britain started the present war with a total capital of about 4,200,000,000 pounds, inclusive of 350,000,000 pounds of her own gold and dollar funds.

Official Figures Given

The following are the figures of Britain's war expenditure according to the official announcements of the British Government:

Two hundred and fifty million pounds estimated for the period between September and December in 1939; 756,000,000 pounds for 1940; 797,000,000 pounds for 1941; 632,000,000 pounds for 1942; and 600,000,000 pounds estimated for 1943 (not including 225,000,000 pounds to be supplied by Canada according to the new arrangement between the two nations).

Of the foregoing amount that which was secured by the disposition of Britain's overseas investments is roughly estimated at 1,130,000,000 pounds subdivided as follows: to the end of 1942, 1,000,000,000 pounds and during 1943, 130,000,000 pounds. Thus, if this is deducted from the total of 3,525,000,000 pounds, there will be a remainder of 2,400,000,000 pounds.

However, the real figures will be much smaller because investments in both East Asia and Europe have been largely destroyed by the military occupations of Japan and Germany, totaling not less than 300,000,000 pounds. To this may be added those which could not be disposed or which have been held as security, so that the remainder will be something like 1,500,000,000 pounds.

Former British Finance Minister Wood declared in the House of Commons on April 12th last year that Britain's overseas investments in 1942 decreased to 1,630,000,000 pounds. Moreover, major portions of this remainder such as those in Canada and India have become impossible of disposition. In reality, Britain appears to have already exhausted all investments capable of mobilization for her war purposes.

Lend-Lease Debt Rises

The difficulty of disposing her overseas investments means the steady increase of British debts. Aside from those to the United States under the Lend-Lease arrangement which are said to have reached 1,100,000,000 pounds at the end of June, 1943, and her sterling funds in Canada which has been increasing at the rate of 200,000,000 pounds per year, her debts in sterling territories and in South American countries have been on a steady rise.

One of Britain's difficulties in meeting the above problem is that the use of the gold produced in South Africa for this purpose has been very much restricted in recent years, because a considerable amount has been set aside as security for the war supplies made by the Union of South Africa. The amount of this security at the end of March, 1943 was estimated at 82,000,000 pounds.

As the result, whereas the sterling funds in London at the outbreak of the present war was 180,000,000 pounds, it had increased to 700,000,000 pounds at the end of 1942 and further to 1,500,000,000 pounds at the end of last year. The Economist gives the following statistical data in its issue of August 7, 1943 sterling funds in Britain, classified by countries: 500,000,000 pounds for India, 157,000,000 pounds for Canada, 121,000,000 pounds for Ireland, 71,000,000 pounds for Egypt, 64,000,000 pounds for Australia, 34,000,000 pounds for New Zealand, 18,000,000 pounds for Argentina, and 9,000,000 pounds for the Union of South Africa.

Aside from these there is a special account to compensate for losses suffered by the ships chartered from Norway, the Netherlands and Greece, which is also a sort of war debt for Britain.

Thus, the foregoing figures indicate the inevitability of Britain's economic downfall; the complexity of the problem of her war debts and the difficulty of its solution.